

In The Claims:

1. (previously presented) A lacrosse-stick head comprising:
an open frame including a throat, a pair of sidewalls, and a transverse wall connecting said throat to each one of said pair of sidewalls;
said throat including two outer side surfaces, said throat intended to communicate with a lacrosse handle,
said each one of said pair of sidewalls having an inner surface and an outer surface as defined by a center line of said lacrosse handle,
said outer surface of one of said pair of sidewalls and a respective outer side surface of said throat defining an outer surface structure,
said outer surface structure extending outward from a respective one of said two outer side surfaces of the throat and said one of said pair of sidewalls and connected by said transverse wall, wherein said outer surface structure is sized, shaped, and positioned for stably rolling a lacrosse ball along at least half of its length.
2. (previously presented) The head of claim 1, wherein said one of said pair of sidewalls includes upper and lower arms and at least one connecting portion connecting the upper and lower arms.
3. (previously presented) The head of claim 2, wherein the upper and lower arms, the at least one connecting portion, and the adjacent outer side surface of the throat are sized, shaped, and positioned for stably rolling a lacrosse ball along the upper and lower arms throughout a portion of their length and onto the adjacent outer side surface without contacting the at least one connection portion.
4. (previously presented) The head of claim 2, wherein the upper and lower arms and the at least one connecting portion are sized, shaped, and positioned for stably rolling a lacrosse ball along the upper and lower arms along substantially their entire length without contacting the at least one connecting portion.

5. (previously presented) The head of claim 1, wherein along at least half of its length includes substantially its entire length.

6. (previously presented) The head of claim 1, wherein said one of said pair of sidewalls includes upper and lower arms and, for at least one pitch angle of the head, the upper and lower arms cooperate to simultaneously support a lacrosse ball throughout a first range of roll angles of the open frame and the adjacent outer side surface of the throat supports a lacrosse ball throughout a second range of roll angles of the open frame.

7. (original) The head of claim 6, wherein the size of the first range of roll angles is at least approximately 60 degrees, and the size of the second range of roll angles is at least approximately 30 degrees.

8. (previously presented) The head of claim 6, wherein the upper and lower arms cooperate to simultaneously support a lacrosse ball over a range of pitch angles.

9. (original) The head of claim 8, wherein the size of the range of pitch angles is approximately 30 degrees.

10. (previously presented) The head of claim 1, wherein said one of said pair of sidewalls includes upper and lower arms and the upper and lower arms include bases and rails extending in a direction outward from the bases and substantially perpendicular to the bases, the upper and lower arms, the bases, and the rails being sized, shaped, and positioned for stably supporting a lacrosse ball along the rails throughout a portion of their length.

11. (previously presented) The head of claim 1, wherein the open frame includes a longitudinal axis and said one of said pair of sidewalls includes a convex shape with respect to the longitudinal axis.

12. (previously presented) The head of claim 1, wherein said open frame includes a longitudinal axis and at least one of said two outer side surfaces of said throat includes a convex shape with respect to said longitudinal axis.

13. (previously presented) The head of claim 1, wherein said throat includes an outer upper surface having a concave depression therein, said concave depression having a size and a shape substantially similar to the size and the shape of at least a portion of a lacrosse ball for stably supporting a lacrosse ball therein.

14. (previously presented) The head of claim 1, wherein said transverse wall includes an upper edge, a lower edge positioned to be adjacent a pocket disposed on said open frame, and one or more projections extending downward from said lower edge in a direction away from said upper edge and being sized, shaped, and positioned for grabbing a lacrosse ball from a surface, the lacrosse ball being positioned between said one or more projections and said pocket disposed on said open frame upon being grabbed from said surface.

15. (previously presented) The head of claim 14, wherein said one or more projections are separated by a width less than a diameter of a lacrosse ball.

16. (previously presented) The head of claim 15, wherein cross-sectional shapes of said one or more projections include one or more of: polygonal shapes, oval shapes, and semi-oval shapes.

17. (previously presented) The head of claim 1, wherein said open frame is integrally formed from molded plastic.

18. (previously presented) A lacrosse-stick head comprising:
an open frame including a throat, a pair of sidewalls, and a transverse wall connecting said throat to each one of said pair of sidewalls;

said throat including two outer side surfaces, said throat intended to communicate with a lacrosse handle,

said each one of said pair of sidewalls having an inner surface and an outer surface as defined by a center line of said lacrosse handle,

said outer surface of one of said pair of sidewalls and a respective outer side surface of said throat defining an outer surface structure,

said outer surface structure extending outward from a respective one of said two outer side surfaces of the throat and said one of said pair of sidewalls and connected by said transverse wall, said outer surface structure of said one of said pair of sidewalls and an adjacent outer side surface of the throat forming a groove therewithin, said groove being sized, shaped, and positioned for stably rolling a ball along at least half of its length.

19. (previously presented) The head of claim 18, wherein the ball includes one or more of a baseball, a golf ball, a lacrosse ball, a rubber ball, a spherical object ranging in size from a golf ball to a softball, a softball, and a tennis ball.

20. (previously presented) The head of claim 18, wherein said one of said pair of sidewalls includes upper and lower arms and at least one connecting portion connecting the upper and lower arms.

21. (previously presented) The head of claim 20, wherein said upper and lower arms and said at least one connecting portion are sized, shaped, and positioned for stably rolling said ball along said upper and lower arms throughout a portion of their length and onto said respective adjacent outer side surface of said throat without contacting the at least one connecting portion.

22. (previously presented) The head of claim 20, wherein said upper and lower arms and said at least one connecting portion are sized, shaped, and positioned for stably rolling said ball along said upper and lower arms along

substantially their entire length and onto said respective adjacent outer side surface of said throat without contacting the at least one connecting portion.

23. (previously presented) The head of claim 18, wherein along at least half of its length includes substantially its entire length.

24. (previously presented) A lacrosse-stick head comprising:
an open frame including a throat, a pair of sidewalls, and a transverse wall connecting said throat to each one of said pair of sidewalls;

said throat including two outer side surfaces, said throat intended to communicate with a lacrosse handle,

a transverse wall, the transverse wall including an upper edge, a lower edge positioned to be adjacent a pocket disposed on the open frame, and one or more projections extending downward from the lower edge in a direction away from the upper edge and being sized, shaped, and positioned for grabbing a lacrosse ball from a surface such that the lacrosse ball is positioned between the one or more projections and the pocket disposed on the open frame, and

each of said pair of sidewalls having an inner surface and an outer surface as defined by a center line of said lacrosse handle,

said outer surface of one of said pair of sidewalls and a respective outer side surface of said throat defining an outer surface structure,

said outer surface structure extending outward from a respective one of outer side surfaces of the throat and said one of said pair of sidewalls and connected by the transverse wall.

25. (previously presented) The head of claim 24, wherein said one or more projections are separated by a width less than a diameter of said lacrosse ball.

26. (previously presented) The head of claim 24, wherein cross-sectional shapes of said one or more projections include one or more of: polygonal shapes, oval shapes, and semi-oval shapes.

27. (previously presented) The head of claim 24, wherein said open frame is integrally formed from molded plastic.

28. (previously presented) A lacrosse-stick head comprising:
an open frame including a throat, a pair of sidewalls, and a transverse wall connecting said throat to each one of said pair of sidewalls;
said transverse wall including an upper edge and a lower edge positioned to be adjacent a pocket disposed on said open frame, and
wherein said throat includes an upper surface having a concave depression therein, said concave depression having a size and a shape substantially similar to the size and the shape of at least a portion of a lacrosse ball for stably supporting a lacrosse ball therein.